

The People's Press.

SALEM, N. C.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1872.

Constitutional Amendments.

There seems to be a disposition on the part of some of the Republican members of the Legislature, to vote with the Conservatives in making some changes in our State Constitution. This is all right. Every one knows there should be changes made, and that without unnecessary delay. At the time when the Constitution was framed the wisest legislation did not prevail. Its adoption by the people was made with an understanding that all necessary corrections could be made hereafter, when we were fully established again as a State and free from bayonet rule.

Arrangements should be made relative to the heavy State debt, which, with its accrued interest, has grown to such an enormous amount that it is next to impossible to pay it. It ought not to remain in its present condition, and the people look to the Legislature for some attempt, at least, to relieve them from its burdens. The whole affair has nothing to do with party politics, and we hope there are enough Republicans in both Houses of our Legislature, who can and will do all that is possible to effect a change for the better, and at the earliest practical moment.

The Congressional Investigation.

The Credit Mobilier scandal is working in Congress. Oakes Ames, President of the Union Pacific Railroad, and Col. McComb are put forth as the most important witnesses. The Republican press look at the affair as a scandal, while the opposite side are waiting for developments. It is said that Mr. Ames admits the authenticity of letters that are construed as avowing a plan for bribing Congressmen by placing Pacific Railroad Stock among them "where it would do good." Col. McComb swears that he furnished to Mr. Ames the names of certain members of Congress, and the question is, "were these gentlemen bribed?"

We look forward with considerable interest for further developments.

Lieutenant Bates and the Flag.

This poor fellow has just made a laughing stock of himself by carrying the U. S. flag through England, as he did from the city of Vicksburg to Washington City just after the war. This sensational display of the national colors is undignified, to say the least of it. How would the people of the United States feel, were an Englishman to march from Canada to New Orleans, flaunting the English colors bravado like, into the very faces of the American people? He would be looked upon as an ass, and worthy the lunatic asylum. Just so is this fellow Bates, whom the English press is now justly carrying. Fools faces are always seen in public places, and the flag is none the more honored by this unseemly display.

Immigration.

There being a lull in politics, we are pleased to notice several of our cotemporaries engaged in the laudable purpose of drawing public attention to the development of the hidden resources of our good old State, and devising ways and means of encouraging immigration into this State.

The Raleigh Sentinel has the following, which, we hope, our Legislature will not pass idly by:

"Our sister State of Virginia began three or four years ago to make active efforts to induce immigration. In 1870 the writer travelled for several months in that State, and he was constantly impressed with the large number of intelligent and industrious immigrants he met with in many parts of that noble old Commonwealth. In some sections, Prince Edward and Nottingham for instance, he found them quite numerous, and the cry was, still they come." Several prominent gentlemen had taken the matter in hand, and through their exertions the Legislature had most wisely considered the subject and had made liberal provisions for the encouragement of immigration. We regret we have not by the action of the Virginia Legislature that we might draw some lessons from it for our own encouragement.

Not the least important of the measures that should be discussed by our own Legislature, is the best means of fostering and promoting immigration. If the wisest men of the two parties would unite their efforts in this direction, some plan might be adopted which, if faithfully carried out, might ensure to the benefit of the State. Steps should be taken by which the uncommon resources of our State should be brought prominently before the people of the North and of Europe.

We hope the present Legislature will be able to mature some scheme by which a full tide of immigration may flow over North Carolina.

Let politics alone for awhile, and let the people see that you are in earnest about doing something for their benefit.

We are indebted to Dr. Wheeler, Representative from Forsyth, for public document, No. 1, being the Governor's Message.

New York, December 14.—Some of the lately-arrived Italian immigrants appeared on Broadway to-day. They presented a most miserable spectacle. They are almost destitute of clothing, and looked starved. The city authorities are somewhat alarmed at the arrival of so many of them, and it is hoped the officials at Washington will take steps to prevent further immigration of such a nature. The Italian consul in this city states that all of them have passports from their government, and there are no brigands among them.

A friend communicates the following details of a sad accident near Bethlehem, Pennsylvania:

An accident occurred at Bingin, on the North Pennsylvania Railroad, some six miles from Bethlehem, Pa., on Tuesday, 2nd inst., which caused one of the most horrible deaths on record.

At the above mentioned place, the machine which is used at the mines for separating the ore from the dirt is an excavation of considerable depth, and in this is a cylinder bristling with large spikes, which is continually revolving. It seems that a woman was standing on one of the tracks on which the ore cars pass, which is beside the washer, when one of the cars came up behind her unperceived, and striking her, she was hurled from the track upon the revolving spikes. Of course they took immediate hold upon her, and as it was impossible to check the speed of the cylinder immediately, it made two revolutions, and the fated woman was ground to atoms. But who can imagine the feelings of the bereaved husband who was a witness of the sickening tragedy. But a few moments before his wife standing by his side in full health; now not even allowed the privilege of paying the last tribute to her remains,—a Christian burial.

The hearts of strong men are said to have failed, and the hearty miners were paralyzed with horror.

The newspapers are teeming with accounts of shocking accidents from various causes, but never did we hear of one that equalled this for appalling and sickening horror.

New Orleans, Dec. 10.—Pinchback proclaims his assumption of the Governorship, and asks the support of all good citizens.

The Custom House Legislature passed a resolution impeaching Warmouth. Vote, 58 to 6. A committee was appointed to inform the Senate.

Pinchback qualified and took possession of the Governor's office.

Warmouth is suspended pending the impeachment proceedings.

CHESTER, S. C., Sunday, Dec. 15.—A destructive fire occurred here at about 4 o'clock this morning, totally destroying the following property: Wylie, Roddy and Adger's two stores; J. E. Curtis, J. L. Gunhouse & Co., P. Nail, John McCaughin, J. Burke, J. W. Rothrock, F. C. Kaufman and Mrs. John Kennedy.

One whole side of the business portion of the town is burned.

A rough estimate of the loss puts it down at from one hundred and fifty to two thousand dollars.

The fire originated in the building of P. Nail. Cause unknown, though thought to be the work of an incendiary.

The same building was fired a little over a year ago, but at that time it was fortunately discovered in time to prevent any serious loss.—Charlotte Democrat.

Small pox is still prevailing in Harnett county, and some new cases are reported in the same neighborhood. No cases have occurred outside of that vicinity. We learn two or three whole families are down with the disease, and have no help, not even to get a drink of water. Their neighbors have fled or will not come near them. The county Commissioners have made provision in money and agents to have these people attended to. It is not believed this disease will spread much further. The negroes run from it the same as they would from the woods on fire. All the doctors have ingloriously fled from those unfortunate people except Dr. McNeill and Dr. J. T. McLean as we learn, and these two visit all the patients regularly.—Fayetteville Eagle Dec. 12th.

PETERSON'S MAGAZINE for January 1873 is already on our table. Never was there a handsomer or better number. It is hard to say which is the best of the two steel engravings, "Cherry Ripe," or the "Initials on the Tree," they are both so beautiful. The large sized Berlin pattern for sofa or footstool, in more than a dozen colors, would cost at the retail store about \$1. The mammoth Fashion Plates are perfect, and are not surpassed by any other fashion book. The stories are entertaining and well written. Two powerful novelettes are begun in this number. By all means subscribe to "Peterson's Magazine," that is, after you have subscribed to your local paper. The price is but Two DOLLARS a year, with liberal deductions to clubs, and a five dollar engraving to those getting up clubs. Specimens are sent gratis. Address CHAS. J. PETERSON, 306 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

Peterson with the Press for \$3.50.

Two men connected with the New York press have none to envy them to-day. One of them has filled the Times with brutalities, and the other has insulted human nature by his caricatures in Harper's Weekly. If these persons possessed the sensibilities and intellectual appreciation of average humanity their sufferings would be too keen for them to bear. But we question whether either of them is capable of realizing what they have done, or of comprehending the popular estimate of their performance and character. Their worst enemy cannot possibly wish them severer punishment than that they have in being what they are. To be a culture or a hyena is the only sufficient penalty for being a culture or a hyena.—Golden Age.

VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE.—We have received from Mr. James Vick, of Rochester, N. Y., his Floral Guide for 1873, a beautiful volume with colored plates, and also full directions for the cultivation of every variety of flower known to our climate. The hints contained therein in regard to the preparation of flower beds are worth double the price of the volume. A beautiful chromo of the new Japan Cockscomb accompanies this number. Mr. Vick intends hereafter to publish this journal quarterly and furnish it to subscribers at twenty-five cents a year. Any one ordering send to the amount of one dollar will have the Guide furnished extra.

"Father what does the printer live on?" "Why child? Because you said you had to pay him for two years and you still take the paper. Wile, put that child to bed; he's an everlasting talker."

North Carolina Legislature.

We gather proceedings from the Legislative summary of the Raleigh Sentinel: In the SENATE, on Monday the 9th, Mr. Fleming introduced a bill to prevent the discrimination between through and local freights, and tariffs on railroads and other transportation companies.

Mr. Respass introduced a bill to enlarge the powers of Justices of the Peace.

Mr. Norwood introduced a bill to prohibit the change of gauge or the laying of a third rail on our railroads.

The Senate very distinctly defined its course in the matter of paying our Superior Court Judges for courts they fail to hold, in refusing by a large majority to relieve Judge Moore of the forfeiture of \$100 for failing to hold the last fall term of Hyde Superior Court, through sickness.

The Senate amended the House resolution on the per diem of absent members by providing that all absentees shall forfeit their pay except they be on special business of the General Assembly.

In the Senate, on Tuesday the 10th, Mr. Grandy introduced a bill to revive the law proceedings for the protection of the State's interest in the Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal Company.

The committee on the sale of the Western North Carolina Railroad was empowered to take testimony under oath.

Mr. Murray introduced a bill to establish a new county by the name of Gilliam. The only business of much importance which transpired in the House was the session of Joint Assembly, in reference to the count of the vote for State officers in August last.

In the Senate, on Wednesday the 11th, Mr. Waring introduced a bill for the appointment of a special commission to conduct the election of Tod R. Caldwell and other State officers in August last.

Mr. Ellis of Columbus, moved the bill be printed.

Mr. Respass called for the yeas and nays. The Senate refused to print—24 to 17. The bill was then referred to the judiciary committee.

The bill to amend the general incorporation act, limiting the number of acres of land to be held by corporate bodies was put upon its third reading. The amendment proposes to put in mining and manufacturing companies, which are not limited to 300 acres.

The only measure of importance before the House of Representatives was the bill introduced by Mr. Morrison of Lincoln, to regulate the salaries of the Governor and Treasurer.

Mr. Morrison made an able speech in advocacy of the bill. The original bill gave the Governor \$4,000 per annum salary, and the Treasurer, 1,800, but it passed its third reading so amended as to give the Treasurer \$2,500.

In the Senate on Thursday the 12th, the House resolution requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to ask for the withdrawal from the interior of the State of Federal troops, was referred.

The House resolution requesting the Governor to issue a proclamation to check the drain of emigration from the State was concurred in.

The bill to amend the Constitution of the State was re-committed with instructions to the committee to present it in a form which will allow each proposed amendment to be voted on separately, and was made the special order for 12 o'clock, Jan. 16th.

Mr. Avara introduced a resolution for the appointment of a commission to consult with the creditors of the State, which was referred to the committee on that subject.

Mr. Ellis of Columbus, from the Committee on the Asylum for the Insane, reported a bill appropriating \$70,000 for the support, repairs, &c., of that institution for the next year.

Mr. Norwood, a resolution to provide for the expense of conveying convicts to the penitentiary and patients to the Insane Asylum and the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind.

The bill to charter the New York, Norfolk and Charleston Railroad Company, passed its second reading.

The only measure which elicited discussion in the House of Representatives was the bill in regard to the pay of members of Boards of County Commissioners. The shape in which the bill passed, allows \$2 per diem and five cents mileage. The bill caused quite a lengthy debate, and a large number of amendments were offered and rejected.

In the Senate on Friday the 13th, the bill to charter the New York, Norfolk and Charleston Railroad Company passed its third reading with important amendments.

The bill to revise the charter of the Fayetteville and Florence Railroad Company passed its several readings.

The public printing business was settled as far as the Senate is concerned and the bill was sent to the House.

The matter of regulating the rate of interest was discussed at considerable length and the Senate refused to make any change in the present law.

The House dispatched a large amount of business which had accumulated upon the calendar.

The resolution to let out the keeping of the Capitol and other public buildings by contract excited a good deal of debate on the Republican side of the House. They didn't like to see the little game of Governor Caldwell and the Supreme Court blocked.

The bill looking to a suppression of the wholesale destruction and shipment of partridges, passed its several readings.

The Senate on Saturday the 14th was engaged chiefly in the discussion of the bill to charter the Bank of Raleigh and the bill to provide for the support of the Asylum for the Insane.

The former bill gave rise to an interesting debate.

The question of providing for the relief of the unfortunate insane now in the care of the several counties and outside of the Asylum will be fully discussed hereafter.

The House of Representatives took no definite action on any measure of public importance save the Senate bill in regard to the public printing. The bill amending the present School law was up, but action upon it was postponed and the bill ordered to be printed.

In the Senate on Monday, sundry new bills were introduced, among them a bid, by Mr. McCauley, to amend the bastardy act; by Mr. Waring, to establish, in or near the city of Charlotte, an asylum for the chronic insane; by Mr. Ellis, of Columbus, a bill in relation to the serving of pro-

cess in civil cases; by Mr. Worth, a bill to amend chap. 93, public laws of 1871-72. The bill to authorize the commissioners of Guilford to levy a special tax for the purpose of building a new court-house passed its third reading.

The House bill to regulate the salaries of the Governor and State Treasurer was amended by making the salary of the Treasurer \$3,000 instead of \$2,500 and the House subsequently concurred in the amendment. The salaries of these officers now stand—Governor \$4,000, Treasurer \$3,000.

The most important measure debated in the House on Monday was the bill to amend the election law, passed by the last General Assembly, as to allow voting by certificate and to do away with the restrictions as to color of paper and device. The bill was very properly indefinitely postponed.

The bill to amend the act chartering the Wilmington and Planters R. R. Co., passed its several readings, but a motion was made to reconsider the vote on the final passage and the consideration of the motion to reconsider was made special order for Tuesday.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—House—Under the regular call, the resolution to amend the constitution, to authorize Congress to fix uniform time for state elections, to complete James River and Kanawha canal, repealing the tax on spirits made entirely from fruit, for ship canal near St. Philip, La., to repeal the iron clad act, civil rights bill was discussed and finally carried by reference to the Committee on revision of laws; to bridge Arkansas at Van Buren, to extend Southern claims commission four years. By General Young, to remove all political disabilities. Mr. Acker moved to suspend the rules and pass the bills removing all political disabilities; failed of two thirds vote, yeas 102 nays 84.

WASHINGTON, December 10.—SENATE—Cole offered a joint resolution to amend the Constitution so as to elect the President and Vice President and Senators of the United States by a direct vote of the people.

WASHINGTON, December 10.—House—Bills were introduced repealing tax on retailers of tobacco, repealing the stamp duty on bank checks, repealing the enforcement act, to bridge the Ohio at Owensboro, pensions and Indians, occupied the balance of the day.

SENATE—Trumbull presented a petition by the lumbermen of Minnesota against the bill to perfect the navigation of the Mississippi as inimical to their interests. Senator Stevenson was appointed regent of Smithsonian Institute vice Davis deceased.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The Secretary of the Treasury sent a communication to the House of Representatives to-day, recommending an amendment to act to regulate and secure safe-keeping of public money entrusted to disbursing officers of the United States, passed in 1866.

On the 11th nothing of interest.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Bill allowing change of registered bonds into coupon bonds, the holders paying the expenses, passed.

Bill allowing soldiers and sailors in the late war to enter land passed.

The Pension bill passed, with the appropriation of thirty and one half millions. Adjourned.

SENATE—Bill abolishing assessors, with some amendments, passed, and goes back to the House.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The Judiciary Committee will report favorably on the bill, making the President's salary fifty thousand dollars a year.

HOUSE—A bill appropriating \$65,000 for William and Mary College was under consideration. An amendment was offered providing that no part of the appropriation shall be paid until the stockholders shall adopt resolutions opening the college to all classes and colors was adopted, yeas 79 to 71 nays. The only Republicans voting against it was Butler, of Tennessee; Cobb, of North Carolina and Poire, of Mississippi. The bill was then, as amended rejected, yeas 36 nays 126, all the Democrats voting "No."

A committee of conference was ordered on the bill abolishing Assessors.

DEATH OF EDWIN FORREST.—Edwin Forrest, the tragedian, fell dead on the 12th while dressing, at his residence, north Broad street.

Mr. Forrest's servants repaired to his room before 10 o'clock, as it was later than his usual hour for coming down, and they found him lying on his bed apparently suffering from apoplexy. He had been exercising with dumb-bells and had evidently nearly completed dressing, having been adjusting his necktie when overpowered. He died in about half an hour after being discovered. He leaves no immediate relatives, his only sister having died several years ago.

The unfortunate affair at Lancaster S. C., in which Mr. D. J. Carter, editor of the Lancaster Ledger, shot and killed a neighbor named Henry J. Hickson. Mr. Carter, it seems, did not shoot with the intention of hitting any one, but to scare off what he thought depredators on his premises.

The Society of United Colonists held a meeting in New York last week, at which speeches were made and communications read from various parts of Canada advocating annexation to the United States.

HARTFORD, CONN., December 14.—Charles Blakesley has been sentenced to ten years imprisonment for attempting to wreck a railroad train.

Sunflowers are raised in Watonwall county, Minn., for fuel. The oil seed in the flowers is found to make a hot fire, and the woody stick when dried, furnishes a good substitute for timber, which is very scarce in that region. It is estimated that two acres will produce enough to last an ordinary family through a long winter.

The census shows that in Tennessee there are 354,668 persons over ten years of age, capable to either read or write. They are divided as follows: whites, 178,727; blacks, 185,941.

The Commissioners on the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia, have decided to memorialize Congress for an appropriation of \$2,000,000.

New York, December 12.—The Anticosta Island Lighthouse has been destroyed by a hurricane. The keeper, his wife, and six children were killed.

The ship Franklin, which sailed from Hamburg for San Francisco last week, has been lost at sea with eighty of those on board.

GENERAL NEWS.

THE DIAMOND SWindle.—The reported discovery of precious stones in Arizona has proved a great swindle. It appears that the parties interested bought gems in Europe and scattered them on the reported diamond fields, and then took other persons there to confirm their alleged discovery. A company was formed to buy the fields and shares were sold. The fraud has been finally exposed. The famous Stanton ruby which has been represented to be worth \$250,000, was tested at San Francisco last week, by lapidaries, and proved to be a soft garnet worth about \$100. Messrs. Harpending, Rubery, and Dore have testified before the Executive Committee of the Mining Company, investigating the diamond swindle. Janin had 1,000 shares, which he sold to Lent and Harpending for \$40,000. The total value of shares sold was \$320,000. One man, whose name is withheld, makes a clean breast of the swindle and names all the parties concerned. Lent will shortly present to the Diamond Executive Committee a full account of the transactions of himself, Harpending, Ralston, McClellan and others from first to last, with Arnold, Slack and Janin. The gems were purchased in Europe. Arnold, Slack and Cooper, realized \$50,000, with which they bought more gems in Europe, and salted the ground with them, and then took Janin to the place, and picked up diamonds for him. The latter's first report was made, and on the strength of that, Lent, Harpending and others invested.

The New Minister to Russia.—The Hon. J. L. Orr, of South Carolina, was on Thursday nominated by the President to be Minister to Russia in the place of ex-Governor Curtin, resigned. Mr. Orr was before the war a prominent Democratic member of Congress, and was the Democratic Speaker who was elected to preside over the House preceding General Banks. When the rebellion broke out he was an ardent advocate of secession, and occupied a seat in the Confederate Senate during the whole war. Judge Orr was one of the first men in the South to "accept the situation" after Lee's surrender, and was appointed by Andrew Johnson Provisional Governor of South Carolina.

This position he held until the State was reconstructed. He has since the war acted with the Republican party, but constantly opposed the corruption in the State Government, and was one of the most prominent of the men who joined Senator Sawyer in his bold attack on the corruptionists last summer. Mr. Orr has been for several years past one of the circuit Judges of South Carolina. This appointment was made by the President without the knowledge of Mr. Orr, he not having been an applicant for the position.

The export cheese trade of the United States is immense and is growing every year. The quantity of cheese exported from New York alone, last week, amounted to 1,798,677 pounds, of which 1,147,534 pounds went to Liverpool. The consumption of cheese in Europe is enormous.—Paris consumes about 11,000,000 pounds, and all France not less than 200,000,000 pounds annually. Most of the American cheese sent abroad is of the factory make, and of a quality equal to the best English. From November to October 15, inclusive, New York has exported 65,670,781 pounds.

Last Sunday evening, a fire in Park Row, New York, destroyed the building occupied by the Express newspaper in that city. The publishers, printers and editors lost about \$35,000 worth of paper stock, type, printing machinery, &c. The editors, Messrs. James and Ernest Brooks, were both out of town at the time—one at Washington, and one at Staten Island. Among their losses was an excellent office library.

A bill has been introduced in the Indiana Legislature which, if it becomes a law, is likely to have the effect of reducing the prevalence of the disease, now both common and dangerous, known as emotional insanity. This bill provides that when an accused person on his trial is declared not guilty on the ground of temporary insanity, the jury shall so specify, and the Judge shall commit the person so declared insane to a lunatic asylum for a term of years proportionate to the crime committed—which in the case of murder would of course be for life.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The Attorney General has, with the approval of the President, submitted a plan of compromise for the existing difficulties in the Alabama Legislature. It suggests the reorganization of the House; also, that the vote of the member for Barbour be counted in the House, with the view of seating whoever is found to be properly elected, the member to be seated during the contest who has Bayland's certificate. It proposes that the contest for Senators in districts where disputes have arisen be settled in a similar manner, and makes further provision for the compensation of the officers and members during the temporary organization of the House while the contests are pending.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Confirmations to-day were, Richard Beardsley, Consul Agent at Alexandria, vice Butler; Mrs. Elizabeth Porter, postmistress at Russellville, Ky.; W. F. Clarke, postmaster at Galveston, Texas; Mrs. Graham at Cheraw, and Whittemore at Sumter, S. C.; Ward Hunt, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court; Samuel F. Phillips as Solicitor General, and Perry, Simmons, Powell, Foulkes, Munn, Hendricks and McDowell, as Supervisors of Internal Revenue.

"The proposition to elect the President, Vice President, and United States Senators by a direct vote of the people seems to be growing in favor. Mr. Cole introduced in the Senate a bill for that purpose, and several leading members of both Houses are understood to be in favor of it.

The telegrams from Washington relative to the proceedings of Congress indicate that it is very probable all direct Federal taxation will cease at an early day with the exception of the tax on whisky and tobacco. The exception is made because whisky and tobacco are more luxuries. The tobacco tax will fall heaviest upon Virginia and North Carolina.

The Texas cotton crop of this year will make over 300,000 bales.

The cane and sugar crops in Florida have been above an average this season.

The cotton crop in many sections of Florida is lamentably short.

The electoral vote of Texas is as follows: Hendricks, for President; Brown, for Vice President, 8.

An exchange says: "In the next Iowa Legislature there will be a Lyon, a Bullock, two Foxes, and three Ducks."

STATE ITEMS.

We are pained to learn that there was a large fire in Morganton, N. C., on Thursday night last, destroying the dwelling house of William C. Erwin and the store and contents of Robert Pressness. Mr. Erwin, once in affluent circumstances, is rendered entirely homeless, and with Mr. Pressness, who likewise loses everything, receives the deep sympathy of the people of Burke.—News.

The Greensboro Patriot says: Alton G. Davis, principal, and Sallie Smith, Calvin Robbins and wife, Alas Robbins, accomplices in the heavy robbery of the Bala safe, (a notice of which appeared in this paper some time ago,) were tried and convicted in the Superior Court of Randolph county on last Thursday. Davis was sentenced to nine, Sallie Smith to seven, Calvin and Alas Robbins to five years imprisonment in the penitentiary at hard labor.

The Legislature has passed a bill authorizing all Sheriffs who have brought convicts to the Penitentiary for reimbursement incurred by the said Sheriffs in transporting the said convicts. This is a question of much moment to many Sheriffs in the State, and quite a number are now in the city holding their claims. The question created much discussion in the Legislature, and it is thought these claims will foot up to something over \$10,000.—Raleigh News.

The Salisbury Watchman says: On last Saturday evening week, Mr. Jacob Casper suddenly dropped dead in the street. He was on his way home in company with his daughter, and below Bank near the terminus of Main street at the time. The cause of his death is thought to have been congestion of the lungs or disease of the heart. He was about 65 years of age.

The Hillsboro Recorder regrets to learn that the health of Col. Wm. Bingham is such that he has been compelled to intermit his duties as a teacher, and seek the restoration of his health in the milder climate of Florida. The interest of the school will not however materially suffer by his absence.

The Raleigh News says: At an adjourned meeting of the State Agricultural Society, Mr. P. A. Wiley, of that city, was elected Treasurer for the ensuing year, vice Mr. W. H. Jones resigned.

The Statesville Intelligencer says: We learn that on last Monday the County Commissioners refused to grant further license to parties in town to retail spirituous liquors within the corporation after the present license has expired.

The through mail and passenger trains on the Richmond and Danville Railroad collided near Coalfield Station, Va., on Tuesday afternoon week. The down train was filled with passengers, most of them stockholders, going to attend a meeting, but fortunately no one was hurt.

Fifteen citizens of Anson county passed through Charlotte recently going to Arkansas. We regret to chronicle an event of this kind. North Carolina can ill afford to lose her industrious, substantial citizens.—Charlotte Observer.

A drove of fine hogs from Tennessee reached Charlotte recently. The Observer says it is said to be the first drove of Tennessee hogs brought there since 1862.

The Hillsboro Recorder says: Mr. Brown Gordon killed a hog the other day, which after being dressed, weighed 516 lbs. It measured, when hung up, 7 feet 10 inches from toe to snout.

A destructive fire broke out in Smithville on Monday night week, destroying buildings owned by the Rev. W. M. D. Moore, Capt. C. C. Moore and Thomas Brinham. Carelessness of servants the cause.

The Raleigh News says: It takes produce stored from Hickory Tavern one whole week to reach Raleigh. There is great complaint in this city on account of the delay in the shipment of freight on the N. C. Railroad.

The Weldon News informs us that the Messrs. Kiddle, who own several saw mills on the Wilmington road, between Enfield and Halifax, had an order, a few days ago, for a million feet of lumber to be shipped to South America.

Hotel Burnt.

Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, caught fire in the laundry, lost \$25,000. One woman was burned fatally and two seriously. There was great excitement among guests.

LATER.—The fire broke out in the cockpit occupied by laundry woman and domestics. Sixteen bodies were burned beyond recognition. There was only one window in the room, which was barred, and the only means of escape was the stairway, which was in flames. The victims had to wait for death, but it is hoped many died while asleep. Twenty-two bodies had been recovered up to 12 o'clock. The fire originated in the elevator leading to the laundry. Not one of five hundred guests are reported injured. The loss by fire and water will probably be over 100,000.

STILL LATER.—The smoke was suffocating, the water drenched the floors of the hall and filled the baggage. The clothes of seventy-eight servants, who occupied, are ruined. Fully one-fourth of the furniture valued at \$400,000, is ruined.

Robt. Craig, the comedian, is dead.

The Storm in Europe.

LONDON, Dec. 9.—The news from every section give evidence that the storm of yesterday was general and severe, causing great destruction of property. It was severe in Wales and Ireland. Many buildings were unroofed. Three pinnacles of the tower of St. Thomas Church in Exeter, Devonshire, were blown down while the congregation was at worship, and falling on the roof, crushed through into the body of the Church. The congregation was seized with panic at the first intimation of danger, and rushed from the building. None were killed, and their escape is regarded as miraculous.

The steamship St. Louis, from New Orleans to New York, sprang a leak and sunk early on the morning of the 9th. The crew and passengers were rescued and safely landed at Key West after thirty hours' exposure in open boats.

A youthful Danbury lover who sang and played before his young lady's house for two mortal hours, on a Friday night, was electrified, after a short pause, by a cordial "Thank you!" gracefully pronounced by the "other fellow," who appeared at the window.

STEEL ENGRAVINGS.

A lot of small Steel engravings suitable for Scrap Books, at BLUM'S.

Portry.

Folly's Fandango.

In youth's bright days—'twas long before
My dancing days were over—
I voted work a horrid bore,
And idly lived in clover.
I danced as I shall never dance
Again, nor wisdom's ripper,
And capered on in ignorance
Of who should pay the piper.

I danced until the money flew
Out wildly from my pockets;
I danced till dawn and sunken grew
My eyes within their sockets.
I danced until rheumatic gout
Was of each leg a gripper—
And then it was I first found out
Who had to pay the piper.

I danced till I'd worn out my soles,
My stockings needed mending,
My coat and trousers were in holes,
My very hat was bending.
I went to friends for a loan,
But friendship proved a viper,
And I'd no money of my own
Wherewith to pay the piper.

Humorous.

Bill Arr on Life Insurance.

"Bill Arr," the famous Georgia humorist, has been "interviewed" by several life insurance agents and favors the public in his inimitable style with his experience:

A friend (I suppose he was a friend) found me and wanted to see me particularly. He took me a little way back and handed me out some little thumb papers, full of figures and said he wanted to insure my life. That seemed me worse than anything, for it looked like I was in danger, and he had just found it out. I asked him if he thought there would be a fight. He explained things to me, and I felt relieved, and declined to insure for the present. You see I felt mighty well, and couldn't see the necessity. At the next corner I met another friend who seemed glad to see me, exceedingly.

He held my hand in his several moments. He asked me if my life was insured. He said he was agent for the best company. He then explained to me that I might die at any time, that they didn't undertake to keep a man from dying. So I declined, but expressed my gratitude for his interest in my welfare, and promised to buy a policy as soon as I got right sick. Just as I left him I heard him call some phel-lor a durned phool. When I got to the hotel there was a man waitin' for me on the same business. He talked to me for an hour on the uncertainty of life and certainty of death. I thought he was a missionary. He seemed much concerned about my wife and children, and once or twice wiped his eyes with a pocket handkerchief. I knew he was a friend, and told him I would reflect seriously about the matter.

I believe that company is a purely philanthropic institution, and would lend a dollar a few dollars if he was suffering. I think I will try to borrow from their agent to-morrow. This morning the first one come to see me, and I konkluded I was looking mighty bad, and asked him to excuse me as I was not feeling well. I went down to Dr. Alexander, got a dose of salts. I told him I was sick, and the reason why. He told me all about it, and said there was about 100 of them fellows in town, and they bored half an inch at the first interview, and an inch on the second in the same hole, and so on till they got to the bottom, and the patients give in and took a policy. I don't know about that, but will say they are the friendliest, most sympathetic, and kind hearted men I ever struck; only I don't like so much talk about coffin and graveyards. I didn't like the salts.

THE "FIFTH CALF."—A good story is told of a couple of farmers who lived a few miles apart. One day one called on the other, happening at dinner. The person called upon, by the way, was a penurious old fellow. He was seated at the table enjoying his meal. The visitor drew to the stove, looking very wistfully at the table, expecting the farmer to ask him to dine. The old farmer kept on eating: "What's the news up, you? Your neighbor?" (still eating). "No news, eh?" "No, I believe not." (Presently an idea struck the visitor.)—"Well, yes, friend, I did hear of one item of news that was worth something."

"Ha, what is that?" "Neighbor Jones has a cow that has five calves."

"Is that so? What does the fifth calf do when the others are sucking?" "Why he stands and looks on, just as I do, like a fool."

An Irishman called on a lady and gentleman, in whose employ he was, for the purpose of getting some tea and tobacco. "I had a drama last night, yer honor," said he to the gentleman. "What is it?" "Why, I dreamed that yer honor made me a present of a pound of tobacco, and her ladyship there—heaven bless 'em—gave me some tea for the good wife."

"Ah, pat, dreame go by the contrivance, you know," said the gentleman. "Faith, and they may that," said Pat; "so her ladyship is to give the tobacco and his honor the tea."

A farmer, whose cribs were full of corn, was accustomed to pray that the wants of the needy might be supplied; but when any one in needy circumstances asked for a little corn, he said he had none to spare. One day after hearing his father pray for the poor and needy, his little son said to him:

"Father, I wish I had your corn."

"Why, my son, what could you do with it?" asked his father.

"I would answer your prayers," replied the child.

"You saved my life at the battle of Marston Hill," said a beggar to a Captain. "Saved your life? How?"

"I served under you when you ran away, and I followed."

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